

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	The Bulgarian Red Cross	DATE DISTR.	5 June 1953
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The Central Council of the Bulgarian Red Cross is at No. 21 Tottleben Street in Sofia. Its management consists of five members, one of whom is the Minister of Health, who is ex-officio chairman. The staff numbers approximately 150.
2. Twelve okrüg councils are subordinate to the Central Council, and okoliya and town centers are under the okrüg councils. All staff members receive salaries, except the chairman and secretaries of the town councils.
3. The Bulgarian Red Cross is the largest mass organization in Bulgaria. Membership is compulsory for all workers, clerks, and students over 17 years old. Housewives form a considerable part of its membership. Each member pays monthly dues as follows: 1.60 leva for workers and clerks and .80 leva for housewives. Red Cross cells, which are established in every plant and governmental enterprise, collect the dues.
4. A principal task of the Bulgarian Red Cross is to train groups for auxiliary medical services. The following courses are held regularly:
  - a. A nurses course of three years duration for girls and women with at least five years of secondary education; seven or eight of these courses are now in progress in Sofia and elsewhere, with classes of 30 to 40 students each;
  - b. A nurses' aide course of one year duration for girls and young women with at least seven years of elementary education; four of five of these courses are in progress in Sofia only;
  - c. San Druzhinski (probably for 'Health Battalions') first aid courses, compulsory for women office workers and housewives up to 40 years old who have at least seven years of elementary education, held in all towns; lectures take several hours a day over a period of six months;

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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- d. TKZS (Trudovo Kooperativno Zemedelsko Stopanstvo; Cooperative Farm) nurse courses, three months in duration, for girls from the TKZS who have at least seven years of elementary education; these courses are held yearly in all district towns (sic, probably okoliya centers); and
- e. Sanitary defense courses (Gotov Sanitarna Otbrana), compulsory for every citizen, regardless of sex or age; consists of an hour's lecture a day over a period of 10 days.

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